



BRITISH COLUMBIA'S ECONOMIC SNAPSHOT

INFORMATION CURRENT TO MARCH 31, 2009

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Leading Indicator	Latest Figure in B.C.	Comparisons
1. Population and Income		
Population	4,419,974 ¹	13.2% of Canada's population
International immigration	43,535 ²	17.6% of the country
Interprovincial migration	3,513 ²	First in the country (Alberta – 9,491)
GDP	\$192.5 billion ²	12.5% of the country
GDP % annual change	1.0% ²	0.5% for Canada
GDP per capita	\$37,574 ²	5 th in Canada (below national average)
Disposable income/capita	\$24,878 ²	3 rd in Canada (below national average)
2. Employment		
Unemployment rate	6.7% ³	7.7% ³ (national average)
Employment rate (% of working age population)	61.5% ³	62.2% ³ (national average)
# of jobs created/lost (seasonally adjusted)	40,000 jobs lost - YTD for February 2009	211,600 jobs for the country
3. Business Climate		
CPI - % annual change	2.1% ²	2.3% ²
Taxpayer-supported - debt to GDP ratio	15.2% - (2009 Budget - Estimate 09/10)	Second lowest in Canada
Total debt to GDP ratio	20.4% - (2009 Budget)	31.6% for Canada (Federal 2009 Budget)
Total provincial debt load	\$40.5 billion - (2009 Budget)	8.8% of Canada's debt
Total \$ value of building permits ³ (residential and non-residential)	\$345 million	7.8% of the nation
Value of the Major Projects Inventory ¹	\$179.4 billion projects planned or underway	21.1% increase in value over last year
R & D Expenditures	\$2.644 billion (2006)	9.2% of country total
4. Commodity Exports		
Value of international exports ²	\$33.2 billion	7.0% of the nation
Year to date (January 2009)	\$2.04 billion	7.0% of the nation
% change from last year	-6.5% (January 2009)	-20.7% for Canada
Top exporting partners (% of exports) ²	1. U.S. (53.0%) - \$17.5 billion 2. Japan (15.2%) - \$5.0 billion 3. China (6.1%) - \$2.0 billion 4. South Korea (5.9%) - \$1.9 billion	Canada: 1. U. S. (77.7%) - \$375.5 billion 2. U. K. (2.7%) - \$12.9 billion 3. Japan (2.3%) - \$11.1 billion 4. China (2.1%) - \$10.4 billion
Top exported products ²	1. Bituminous Coal (15.9%) - \$5.3 billion 2. Lumber (10.7%) - \$3.6 billion 3. Natural gas (9.5%) - \$3.2 billion 4. Chemical wood pulp (6.8%) - \$2.3 billion	Canada: 1. Crude petroleum (14.0%) - \$67.4 billion 2. Natural gas (6.8%) - \$32.8 billion 3. Motor vehicles (5.6%) - \$27.0 billion 4. Heavy petroleum (2.3%) - \$11.2 billion
5. Commodity Imports		
Value of international imports ²	\$43.0 billion	9.9% of country total
% change ²	11.0%	6.5% for the country
Top importing partners (% of imports) ²	1. U.S. (41.8%) - \$17.9 billion 2. China (22.6%) - \$9.7 billion 3. Japan (9.6%) - \$4.1 billion 4. South Korea (4.0%) - \$1.7 billion	Canada: 1. U.S. (52.4%) - \$227.1 billion 2. China (9.8%) - \$42.6 billion 3. Mexico (4.1%) - \$17.9 billion 4. Japan (3.5%) - \$15.2 billion
Top imported products ²	1. Motor vehicles (6.3%) - \$2.7 billion 2. Heavy and light Petroleum oil (7.9%) - \$3.4 billion 3. TV/radio/sound (1.9%) - \$0.8 billion 4. Electrical energy (1.4%) - \$0.6 billion	1. Crude Petroleum oils (7.9%) - \$34.1 billion 2. Motor vehicles 1501>3000 CC (5.6%) - \$24.4 billion 3. Medicaments (1.6%) - \$7.1 billion 4. Heavy Petroleum oil (1.3%) - \$5.6 billion

¹Quarterly update ²Yearly update - 2007 ³Monthly update